

FLORIDA

TENNIS



#24 Florida Gators (7-4/2-1)

@GatorsMTN

Last Match:
The Gators swept the Auburn Tigers last Friday night in their sole match last weekend at the Ring Tennis Complex.

Florida's 2015-16 Schedule and Results

Overall: 7-4 (Home 5-0, Away 2-2, Neutral 0-2)
SEC: 2-1 (Home 1-0, Away 1-1)

| Date | UF/Opp Rank | Opponent/Event | Time/Results |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| January | | | |
| Sun. 17 | 24/63 | TROY | W, 6-1 |
| Sun. 17 | 24/NR | STETSON | W, 7-0 |
| Sat. 23 | 21/20 | at Texas (1) | W, 4-0 |
| Sun. 24 | 21/15 | vs. Texas Tech (1) | L, 4-3 |
| Sat. 30 | 20/8 | at USC (2) | L, 4-3 |
| Sun. 31 | 20/12 | at UCLA (2) | cancelled |
| February | | | |
| Sat. 13 | 22/NR | FURMAN | W, 7-0 |
| Sun. 21 | 23/6 | at Ohio State | L, 4-3 |
| Sat. 27 | 41/35 | FLORIDA STATE | W, 7-0 |
| March | | | |
| Fri. 4 | 30/32 | at LSU | W, 4-3 |
| Sun. 6 | 30/8 | at Texas A&M | L, 4-3 |
| Fri. 11 | 25/64 | AUBURN | W, 7-0 |
| Fri. 18 | 24/13 | ARKANSAS | 5:00 p.m. |
| Sun. 20 | 24/22 | OLE MISS | 1:00 p.m. |
| Fri. 25 | | at Mississippi State | 5:00 p.m. |
| Sun. 27 | | at Alabama | 2:00 p.m. |
| April | | | |
| Fri. 1 | VANDERBILT | | 5:00 p.m. |
| Wed. 6 | VIRGINIA | | 5:00 p.m. |
| Fri. 8 | | at Georgia | 5:00 p.m. |
| Sun. 10 | | at South Carolina | TBD |
| Fri. 15 | KENTUCKY | | 5:00 p.m. |
| Sun. 17 | TENNESSEE | | 1:00 p.m. |
| Wed. 20 | | SEC Tournament (Columbia, SC) | All Day |
| May | | | |
| Fri. 13 | | NCAA Team First and Second Rounds | |
| Thu. 19 | | NCAA Round of 16 | |
| Fri. 20 | | NCAA Team Quarterfinals | |
| Sun. 22 | | NCAA Team Semifinals | |
| Tues. 24 | | NCAA Team Finals | |
| Wed. 25 | | NCAA Individual Championships | |

*Southeastern Conference Match (1) ITA Kick-Off Weekend in Austin, Texas (2) Pac-12/SEC Challenge in Los Angeles, Calif.

Follow the Gators

Official Website: FloridaGators.com

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#13 Arkansas Razorbacks (13-3/3-1)

@RazorbackMTEN

Last Match:
The Razorbacks defeated the LSU Tigers on Sunday afternoon, 5-2 in Fayetteville.

Match Day Facts

WHERE:

Linder Stadium | Ring Tennis Complex

WHEN:

Friday, March 18 at 5 p.m. ET

SERIES RECORD:

Florida leads the all-time series, 26-2

LAST MEETING:

The Gators defeated the Razorbacks, 4-0 on March 20, 2015 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Last Serve vs. the Razorbacks

Florida swept Arkansas in 2015 behind a doubles point and a strong singles effort. Singles victories came from Perez- Blanco, Watson and Orkin got his first match-clinching win of the 2015 season.

Freshman Impressing Early

Gators freshman Alfredo Perez is currently on a six match singles winning streak. Perez is the only freshman in the SEC with an undefeated singles record and a winning doubles record.

Eleven Matches, Eight Lineups

The Gators have used eight different lineups in eleven this season. UF has compiled seven wins with four different Gators clinching the match victories.

Number Two in Doubles

In the recent Oracle ITA Rankings, the senior tandem of Diego Hidalgo and Gordon Watson are the No. 2 doubles pair in the nation.

SEC Firsts

Gator freshmen Alfredo Perez and McClain Kessler have each secured their first SEC singles victories against LSU and Texas A&M. Perez is 3-0 in SEC singles and Kessler is 2-1.

SPORTS COMMUNICATIONS

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#GOGATORS

| NAME | HT | CL | EXP | L/R | Hometown/Previous School |
|--------------------|------|-------|-----|-----|---|
| Jordan Belga | 5-10 | So. | 1L | R | Boca Raton, Fla./Florida Virtual School |
| Diego Hidalgo | 5-11 | Sr. | 2L | L | Guayaquil, Ecuador/Pert High School |
| McClain Kessler | 5-11 | Fr. | HS | R | Calhoun, Ga./Calhoun High School |
| Maxx Lipman | 6-2 | Jr. | 2L | R | Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood High School |
| Elliott Orkin | 5-8 | Jr. | 2L | R | Marietta, Ga./Eaton Academy |
| Alfredo Perez | 6-2 | Fr. | HS | R | Havana, Cuba/Coral Gables High School |
| Chase Perez-Blanco | 5-8 | So. | 1L | R | Miami, Fla./Gulliver Prep |
| Josh Wardell | 5-11 | R-So. | 1L | R | Fort Myers, Fla./Florida Virtual School |
| Gordon Watson | 5-11 | Sr. | 3L | R | Naples, Fla./First Baptist Academy |

Head Coach: BRYAN SHELTON

Trainer: TONY MUÑOZ

Asst. Coach: MARK MERKLEIN

Dir. of Tennis Operations: KATE HARTE

Vol. Asst. Coach: SCOTT PERELMAN

Manager: PETER SLATON

Making Moves in the Rankings

Senior Diego Hidalgo moved up 29 slots in the recent ITA rankings and is into the Top-25, currently sitting at No. 21.

Junior Elliott Orkin jumped 16 spots into the singles Top-35 rankings. Orkin was ranked 49 in the preseason rankings and is currently No. 33.

Florida vs. SEC Opponents

Since beginning SEC play in 1950, the Orange and Blue is 388-228-4 all-time against SEC opponents.

SEC Freshman of the Week

Alfredo Perez earned his first collegiate honor on March 2, garnering SEC Freshman of the Week.

No. 50

Diego Hidalgo grabbed his 50th career singles victory in his match against Max de Vroome of USC.

Season-Opening Success

UF is 65-6 all-time in season-opening dual matches. The Gators have not dropped an opener since 1998 against Indiana

Fall Headlines

Hidalgo, Watson win doubles title at USTA/ITA Southeast Regional Championships, defeating the No. 1-ranked Georgia tandem in the semifinals.

Freshman Alfredo Perez wins seven matches to reach the main draw from the pre-qualifying rounds at the ITA All-American.

Elliott Orkin wins singles title at the SEC Fall Tournament.

Chase Perez-Blanco and Josh Wardell take the doubles title at the Bedford Cup.

2015-2016 Florida Gators



Jordan Belga
5-10
Sophomore
Right-Handed
Boca Raton, Fla.
Florida Virtual School

Overall Singles: 15-6
Tournament Singles: 13-5
Dual Singles: 2-1
SEC Singles: 0-0
Overall Doubles: 1-0
Tournament Doubles: 0-0
Dual Doubles: 1-0
SEC Doubles: 0-0

Overall Singles: 26-16
Tournament Singles: 21-11
Dual Singles: 5-5
SEC Singles: 1-1
Overall Doubles: 5-5
Tournament Doubles: 4-5
Dual Doubles: 1-0
SEC Doubles: 0-0



Diego Hidalgo
5-11
Senior
Left-Handed
Guayaquil, Ecuador
Pert High School

Overall Singles: 21-10
Tournament Singles: 14-7
Dual Singles: 7-3
SEC Singles: 2-1
Overall Doubles: 16-5
Tournament Doubles: 12-2
Dual Doubles: 5-3
SEC Doubles: 2-1

Overall Singles: 54-29
Tournament Singles: 30-14
Dual Singles: 24-15
SEC Singles: 10-6
Overall Doubles: 52-22
Tournament Doubles: 25-5
Dual Doubles: 27-17
SEC Doubles: 11-9



McClain Kessler
5-11
Freshman
Right-Handed
Calhoun, Ga.
Calhoun High School

Overall Singles: 20-8
Tournament Singles: 14-5
Dual Singles: 6-3
SEC Singles: 2-1
Overall Doubles: 8-3
Tournament Doubles: 7-3
Dual Doubles: 1-0
SEC Doubles: 0-0

Overall Singles: 20-8
Tournament Singles: 14-5
Dual Singles: 6-3
SEC Singles: 2-1
Overall Doubles: 8-3
Tournament Doubles: 7-3
Dual Doubles: 1-0
SEC Doubles: 0-0



Maxx Lipman
6-2
Junior
Right-Handed
Brentwood, Tenn.
Brentwood High School

Overall Singles: 11-11
Tournament Singles: 10-9
Dual Singles: 1-2
SEC Singles: 0-0
Overall Doubles: 10-7
Tournament Doubles: 5-5
Dual Doubles: 5-2
SEC Doubles: 0-0

Overall Singles: 54-34
Tournament Singles: 31-18
Dual Singles: 23-16
SEC Singles: 11-7
Overall Doubles: 46-30
Tournament Doubles: 17-12
Dual Doubles: 29-18
SEC Doubles: 13-5



Elliott Orkin
5-8
Junior
Right-Handed
Marietta, Ga.
Eaton Academy

Overall Singles: 22-7
Tournament Singles: 13-5
Dual Singles: 9-2
SEC Singles: 2-1
Overall Doubles: 10-8
Tournament Doubles: 5-5
Dual Doubles: 5-3
SEC Doubles: 0-0

Overall Singles: 72-28
Tournament Singles: 40-14
Dual Singles: 32-14
SEC Singles: 16-6
Overall Doubles: 52-33
Tournament Doubles: 25-13
Dual Doubles: 27-20
SEC Doubles: 12-9



Alfredo Perez
6-2
Freshman
Right-Handed
Havana, Cuba
Coral Gables High School

Overall Singles: 24-6
Tournament Singles: 16-5
Dual Singles: 8-1
SEC Singles: 3-0
Overall Doubles: 10-3
Tournament Doubles: 5-2
Dual Doubles: 5-1
SEC Doubles: 2-1

Overall Singles: 24-6
Tournament Singles: 16-5
Dual Singles: 8-1
SEC Singles: 3-0
Overall Doubles: 10-3
Tournament Doubles: 5-2
Dual Doubles: 5-1
SEC Doubles: 2-1



Chase Perez-Blanco
5-8
Sophomore
Right-Handed
Miami, Fla.
Gulliver Prep

Overall Singles: 22-7
Tournament Singles: 15-4
Dual Singles: 7-3
SEC Singles: 1-2
Overall Doubles: 10-1
Tournament Doubles: 5-1
Dual Doubles: 5-1
SEC Doubles: 2-0

Overall Singles: 47-18
Tournament Singles: 26-11
Dual Singles: 21-6
SEC Singles: 9-3
Overall Doubles: 21-7
Tournament Doubles: 14-4
Dual Doubles: 7-3
SEC Doubles: 2-0



Josh Wardell
5-11
RS-Sophomore
Right-Handed
Fort Myers, Fla.
Florida Virtual School

Overall Singles: 10-6
Tournament Singles: 9-5
Dual Singles: 1-0
SEC Singles: 0-0
Overall Doubles: 9-4
Tournament Doubles: 7-2
Dual Doubles: 2-2
SEC Doubles: 0-1

Overall Singles: 19-15
Tournament Singles: 16-11
Dual Singles: 3-5
SEC Singles: 2-2
Overall Doubles: 24-16
Tournament Doubles: 15-6
Dual Doubles: 10-10
SEC Doubles: 3-7



Gordon Watson
5-11
Senior
Right-Handed
Naples, Fla.
First Baptist Academy

Overall Singles: 9-7
Tournament Singles: 4-5
Dual Singles: 5-2
SEC Singles: 2-1
Overall Doubles: 16-6
Tournament Doubles: 11-2
Dual Doubles: 5-4
SEC Doubles: 2-1

Overall Singles: 79-43
Tournament Singles: 39-20
Dual Singles: 39-23
SEC Singles: 12-12
Overall Doubles: 76-45
Tournament Doubles: 48-12
Dual Doubles: 38-33
SEC Doubles: 20-16

Florida Match Lineup/Clinchers

| DATE | OPPONENT | DOUBLES | | | SINGLES | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|----------------|---------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1/17 | Troy (63) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | P-Blanco/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | Perez | P-Blanco | Kessler | Lipman |
| 1/17 | Stetson | Orkin/Watson | Perez/Wardell | Belga/Kessler | Orkin | P-Blanco | Kessler | Lipman | Wardell | Belga |
| 1/23 | Texas (20) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | P-Blanco/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | Perez | P-Blanco | Kessler | Belga |
| 1/24 | Texas Tech (21) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | P-Blanco/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | Perez | P-Blanco | Kessler | Lipman |
| 1/30 | USC (8) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | P-Blanco/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | Perez | P-Blanco | Watson | Belga |
| 2/13 | Furman | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | Perez/P-Blanco | Hidalgo | Orkin | P-Blanco | Perez | Watson | Kessler |
| 2/21 | Ohio State (6) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | P-Blanco/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | P-Blanco | Perez | Watson | Kessler |
| 2/27 | Florida State (35) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | Perez/P-Blanco | Hidalgo | Orkin | P-Blanco | Perez | Watson | Kessler |
| 3/4 | LSU (32) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | Perez/Wardell | Hidalgo | Orkin | P-Blanco | Perez | Watson | Kessler |
| 3/6 | Texas A&M (8) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | Perez/P-Blanco | Hidalgo | Orkin | P-Blanco | Perez | Watson | Kessler |
| 3/11 | Auburn (64) | Hidalgo/Watson | Lipman/Orkin | Perez/P-Blanco | Hidalgo | Orkin | Perez | P-Blanco | Watson | Kessler |

ITA Team Rankings

| | |
|-----|-------------------|
| 1. | Virginia* |
| 2. | North Carolina |
| 3. | TCU |
| 4. | Ohio State* |
| 5. | UCLA* |
| 6. | Oklahoma State |
| 7. | Northwestern |
| 8. | Texas Tech |
| 9. | Texas A&M* |
| 10. | Wake Forest |
| 11. | Illinois |
| 12. | USC* |
| 13. | Arkansas* |
| 14. | California |
| 15. | Oklahoma |
| 16. | South Florida |
| 17. | Kentucky* |
| 18. | Texas |
| 19. | Georgia* |
| 20. | Michigan |
| 21. | Baylor |
| 22. | Ole Miss* |
| 23. | Florida State* |
| 24. | Florida |
| 25. | Mississippi State |

*2015-16 Opponents

2015-16 National Collegiate Tennis Rankings

Administered by the ITA

Team rankings released every week, beginning Jan. 5

Individual Singles & Doubles rankings released bi-weekly, beginning Feb. 10

| Date | J5 | J20 | J27 | F3 | F17 | F23 | M1 | M8 | M15 |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----|----|----|-----|
| Team | 24 | 21 | 20 | 22 | 23 | 41 | 30 | 25 | 24 |
| Date | Fall | J5 | F10 | F23 | M8 | | | | |
| Belga | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | | | |
| Hidalgo | 33 | 31 | 48 | 50 | 21 | | | | |
| Lipman | 60 | -- | -- | -- | -- | | | | |
| Kessler | -- | 97 | -- | -- | -- | | | | |
| Orkin | 86 | 49 | 21 | 22 | 33 | | | | |
| Perez | -- | 91 | 54 | 77 | 75 | | | | |
| Perez-Blanco | 84 | 62 | 88 | 30 | 51 | | | | |
| Wardell | -- | -- | -- | 124 | -- | | | | |
| Watson | 108 | -- | -- | -- | -- | | | | |
| Lipman/Orkin | 12 | 40 | 54 | 32 | 60 | | | | |
| Hidalgo/Watson | 23 | 3 | 1 | <u>1</u> | 2 | | | | |

BOLDFACE = career-high ranking; **UNDERLINE** = season-high ranking

SEC Team Standings

| Team | SEC | Overall |
|-------------------|-----|---------|
| Georgia | 3-0 | 8-3 |
| Arkansas | 3-1 | 13-3 |
| Kentucky | 3-1 | 11-3 |
| Mississippi State | 3-1 | 11-3 |
| Texas A&M | 3-1 | 15-4 |
| Florida | 2-1 | 7-4 |
| Alabama | 2-2 | 11-7 |
| Ole Miss | 2-2 | 7-4 |
| South Carolina | 1-2 | 9-8 |
| LSU | 1-3 | 8-6 |
| Auburn | 0-3 | 8-6 |
| Tennessee | 0-4 | 6-8 |
| Vanderbilt | 0-1 | 9-8 |